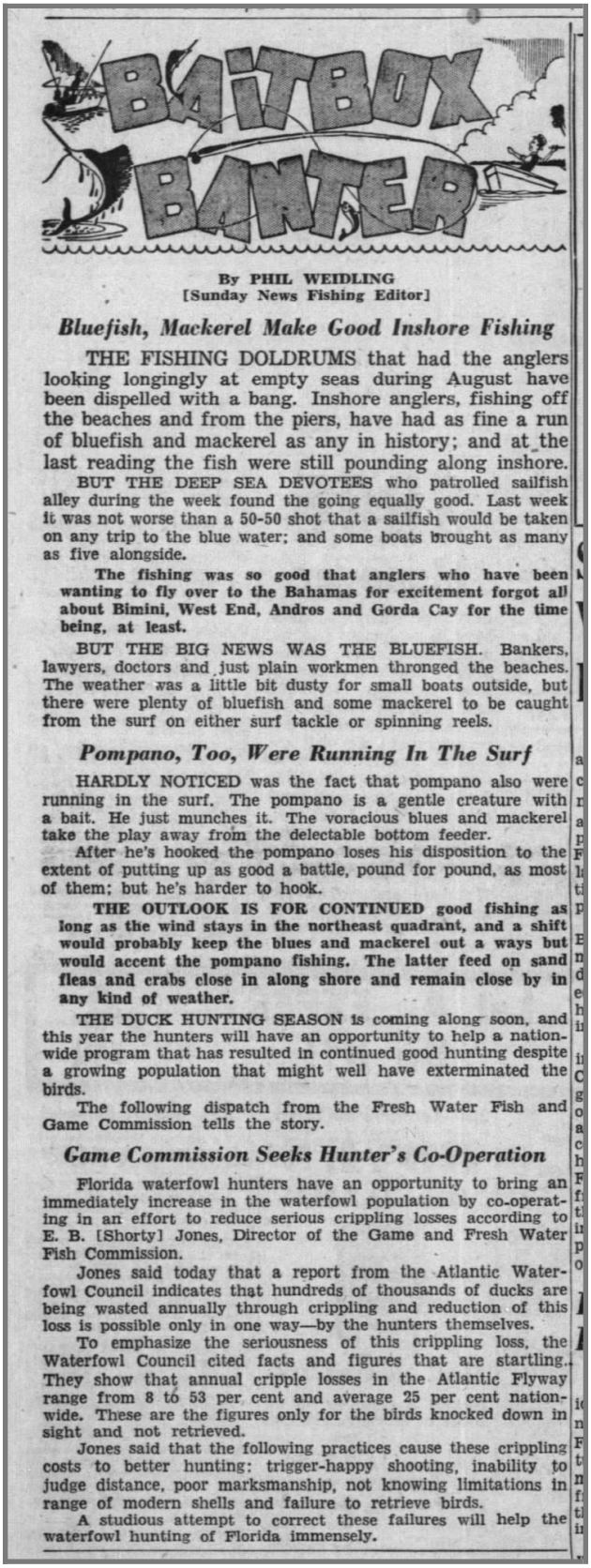
Newspapers by ancestry
https://www.newspapers.com/image/230278561/

Downloaded on Oct 4, 2024



BAITBOX BANTER

By PHIL WEIDLING
[Sunday News Fishing Editor]

Bluefish, Mackerel Make Good Inshore Fishing

THE FISHING DOLDRUMS that had the anglers looking longingly at empty seas during August have been dispelled with a bang. Inshore anglers, fishing off the beaches and from the piers, have had as fine a run of bluefish and mackerel as any in history; and at the last reading the fish were still pounding along inshore.

BUT THE DEEP SEA DEVOTEES who patrolled sailfish alley during the week found the going equally good. Last week it was not worse than a 50-50 shot that a sailfish would be taken on any trip to the blue water; and some boats brought as many as five alongside.

The fishing was so good that anglers who have been wanting to fly over to the Bahamas for excitement forgot all about Bimini, West End, Andros and Gorda Cay for the time being, at least.

BUT THE BIG NEWS WAS THE BLUEFISH. Bankers, lawyers, doctors and just plain workmen thronged the beaches. The weather was a little bit dusty for small boats outside, but there were plenty of bluefish and some mackerel to be caught from the surf on either surf tackle or spinning reels.

Pompano, Too, Were Running In The Surf

HARDLY NOTICED was the fact that pompano also were running in the surf. The pompano is a gentle creature with a bait. He just munches it. The voracious blues and mackerel take the play away from the delectable bottom feeder.

After he's hooked the pompano loses his disposition to the extent of putting up as good a battle, pound for pound, as most of them; but he's harder to hook.

THE OUTLOOK IS FOR CONTINUED good fishing as long as the wind stays in the northeast quadrant, and a shift would probably keep the blues and mackerel out a ways but would accent the pompano fishing. The latter feed on sand fleas and crabs close in along shore and remain close by in any kind of weather.

THE DUCK HUNTING SEASON is coming along soon, and this year the hunters will have an opportunity to help a nation-wide program that has resulted in continued good hunting despite a growing population that might well have exterminated the birds.

The following dispatch from the Fresh Water Fish and Game Commission tells the story.

Game Commission Seeks Hunter's Co-Operation

Florida waterfowl hunters have an opportunity to bring an immediately increase in the waterfowl population by co-operating in an effort to reduce serious crippling losses according to E. B. [Shorty] Jones, Director of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

Jones said today that a report from the Atlantic Waterfowl Council indicates that hundreds of thousands of ducks are being wasted annually through crippling and reduction of this loss is possible only in one way—by the hunters themselves.

To emphasize the seriousness of this crippling loss, the Waterfowl Council cited facts and figures that are startling. They show that annual cripple losses in the Atlantic Flyway range from 8 to 53 per cent and average 25 per cent nation-wide. These are the figures only for the birds knocked down in sight and not retrieved.

Jones said that the following practices cause these crippling costs to better hunting: trigger-happy shooting, inability to judge distance, poor marksmanship, not knowing limitations in range of modern shells and failure to retrieve birds.

A studious attempt to correct these failures will help the waterfowl hunting of Florida immensely.

Clipped By:
C_St_Reed
Oct 4, 2024

Copyright © 2024 Newspapers.com. All Rights Reserved.